1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Programme Title: MSc Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice
2. Final Award: MSc Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice
3. Exit Awards: PgD Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice
   PgC Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice
4. Awarding Body: Glasgow Caledonian University
5. Approval Date: 27th March 2015
6. School: Health & Life Sciences
7. Host Division/Dept: Department of Nursing and Community Health
8. UCAS Code: N/A
9. PSB Involvement: N/A
10. Place of Delivery: Glasgow Caledonian University
11. Subject Benchmark Statement: N/A
2. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The MSc Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice aims to develop the capability of post-qualified nurses to meet the current and future political, clinical, and organisational challenges associated with delivering safe and effective advancing practice. The programme’s intention is to provide high quality educational experiences to enable first level post-qualified nurses to acquire the requisite knowledge, skills and professional attributes associated with advancing professional nursing practice. The programme recognises that advancing nursing practice is a continuous process, predicated on developing and expanding nursing knowledge and skills to underpin decision-making and problem-solving in challenging and complex healthcare situations. Therefore, this programme has been developed to be professionally relevant and academically challenging in order to meet the contemporary and evolving demands of care delivery.

Using a range of dynamic and stimulating intra-professional and inter-professional learning opportunities, the programme aims to build on students existing professional knowledge, skills and attributes to enable them to extend their capabilities. The programme presented for re-approval is intended to support post-qualified nurses in advancing their professional practice and career aspirations. Students who successfully complete relevant core and elective modules and accrue 180 credits will be eligible for the academic Masters award of MSc Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice.

Programme Philosophy
Nationally and internationally, Governments and other key organisations, have acknowledged that the delivery of contemporary healthcare systems will continue to evolve, requiring the contribution and involvement of a highly educated workforce. Crucially, this includes post-qualified nurses who will be expected to act as critical thinkers and problem solvers and as clinical leaders / managers / educators, who advance their own and others’ professional practice in the context of continually changing care delivery and multi-disciplinary working. Students undertaking this programme will actively engage in innovative learning processes which develop personal and professional attributes enabling them to lead developments in practice that focus on improving health outcomes across care boundaries and in a range of dynamic situations. Our vision for the MSc Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice programme is that our graduates will be globally aware; politically astute; and strategically engaged, in order to ensure the continued advancement of professional practice at local, national and international levels in line with our common goal attributes.

The educational aims of the MSc Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice programme draw on our leading position as one of the largest nursing departments in Scotland, a globally networked World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre for Nursing Education, Research and Practice Development and our renowned expertise in Applied Health Research, as follows:

1. To provide a flexible, accessible, student-centred educational experience, making effective use of learning technologies to meet the varied needs of students.
2. To embed our expertise in applied health research in Public Health and Long Term Conditions to provide contemporary evidence base for advancing professional practice into the future.

3. To utilise our experience in Interprofessional Education to provide opportunities for shared learning in an inter-professional context.

4. To maximise our international connections and global networks to expose students to the contemporary challenges and complexities within healthcare at local, national and international levels.

5. Enable nurses to respond to global societal challenges and contribute to healthcare improvement, as part of a workforce capable of meeting the contemporary and future demands associated with values based, quality healthcare delivery.

6. To promote continued personal and professional development in a health career associated with self-directed life-long learning.

7. To enable students to work as Advanced Clinical Nurse Practitioners required for a modern healthcare service in acute and primary care settings.

4 PROGRAMME STRUCTURES AND REQUIREMENTS, LEVELS, MODULES, CREDITS AND AWARDS
The MSc Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice complies with the GCU exit requirements for a Masters programme. This modular programme reflects the Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework (SCQF) and follows the standard Glasgow Caledonian University structure for Postgraduate programmes, which normally comprise 180 credits, of which a minimum of 150 require to be at SCQF level 11. The programme will be offered on a full time – normally one year or a part time basis – normally 3 years.
The credit structure for this programme will accord with accumulating 180 Masters level credits by undertaking a combination of mandatory core modules (equaling 90 level 11 credits) and elective modules (equaling 90 level 11 credits). Core modules within this framework involve the study of Research Methods i.e. ‘Advanced Research Methods’ and a Research Dissertation project.

The elective modules selected by students require being relevant to the named exit award and selected from the modules hosted by the programme. Students will also have the option, where appropriate, to select modules available within other programme’s hosted by Masters programme’s in Advancing Practice. This credit structure has been adopted to promote a flexible and responsive programme within the MSc Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice.

**MSc Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice**

To be eligible for the award of MSc Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice the student must attain accreditation of 180 SCQF credit points with a minimum of 150 being attained at Level 11 (GCU Qualification Framework, 2010). All core modules specified within the programme are compulsory (i.e. Advanced Research Methods and Masters Research Dissertation). In addition to the Masters Research Dissertation which requires to have a focus on advancing nursing practice or applied health, to maintain the integrity of the named award, students must select and successfully complete a minimum of 30 credits from modules hosted by this programme (i.e. programme elective modules) and a maximum of 60 credits from other elective modules available within the SHLS Masters. A worked example of how students might accumulate credit for the named exit award of MSc Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice is identified below for the Clinical Pathway for Home students only and example for International students joining in September. Programme Elective modules, are identified within Appendix 2.

**Other Exit Awards**

Students who wish to exit the programme at an earlier juncture, or who are unable to meet the academic requirements of the MSc Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice may elect to exit with PgD Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice (120 credits) or PgC Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice (60 credits). To maintain the integrity of these named awards, students who wish to exit with PgD Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice must select and successfully complete a minimum of 45 credits from modules, which are specifically hosted by this programme and the Advanced Research Methods module. Students who wish to exit with PgC Nursing: Advancing Professional Practice must select and successfully complete a minimum of 30 credits from modules, which are specifically hosted by this programme.
8 ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS
Glasgow Caledonian University Assessment Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Programmes 2018-19 apply to this programme

With the following Exceptions
Students undertaking programme elective modules which involve more than one assessment component, must pass all components to successfully pass the module which in relation to this programme will be detailed by GCU Exceptions Committee (Case number 148).

Programme elective modules which detail an OSCE have, in accordance with departmental practice for modules which clearly learning linked professional and technical skills development for safe and effective clinical nursing practice, a pass mark of 70%, or a pass/fail method which in relation to this programme will be detailed by GCU Exceptions Committee (Case number 148).